

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1-5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) ~~The A~~ database creation method ~~according to claim 1~~, further comprising:

extracting character information from source information;

sequentially and individually setting flags to respective pieces of the character information pieces extracted from the source information;

extracting word information from the character information; and

creating a database based on the word information.

7. (currently amended) The database creation method according to claim 6, further comprising:

judging whether the extraction of the character information has been extracted from the source information has been performed according to the a previously set flag which already has been set.

8. (currently amended) ~~The A~~ database creation method ~~according to claim 1~~, further comprising:

extracting character information from source information;

extracting word information from the character information;

collating the extracted word information with word information in an existing database; and

adding and registering the extracted word information to the existing database when the extracted word information does not exist in the existing database.

9. (currently amended) The database creation method according to claim 8, further comprising:

judging whether the existing extracted word information is identical to the word information having an

uppermost priority when the extracted word information exists in the existing database; and

updating the existing database according to the extracted word information when the extracted word information is not identical to the word information having the uppermost priority.

10. (currently amended) The database creation method according to claim 8, further comprising:

judging whether a change ~~of~~ in the existing database is allowed; and

~~performing the change~~ changing of the existing database only when the change ~~of~~ in the existing database is allowed.

11. (currently amended) The database creation method according to claim 10, further comprising:

making a judgment about the presence/absence of the setting of a change confirmation when the existing database is changed; and

generating a predetermined confirmation message when ~~the setting of the change confirmation has been made~~ set.

12-17. (canceled)

18. (currently amended) ~~The~~ A database creation apparatus according to ~~claim 13~~, further comprising:

a character information extracting section which extracts character information from source information;

a flag setting section which sequentially and individually sets flags to respective pieces of the character information pieces extracted from the source information;

a word information extracting section which extracts word information from the character information; and

a creation section which creates a database from the word information.

19. (currently amended) The database creation apparatus according to claim 18, further comprising:

a judging section which judges whether the extraction of the character information has been extracted from the source

~~information has been performed according to the a previously set flag which already has been set.~~

20. (currently amended) ~~The~~ A database creation apparatus ~~according to claim 13, comprising:~~

a character information extracting section which extracts character information from source information;

a word information extracting section which extracts word information from the character information; and wherein the a creation section which creates a database from the word information and which collates the extracted word information with the word information in an existing database, and when the extracted word information does not exist in the existing database, the extracted word information is added and registered into the existing database.

21. (original) The database creation apparatus according to claim 20, wherein when the extracted word information exists in the existing database, the creation section further judges whether the extracted word information is identical to the word information having an uppermost priority which has been set in the existing database, and when the extracted word information is not identical to the word information having the uppermost priority, the existing database is updated on the basis of the extracted word information.

22. (currently amended) The database creation apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the creation section judges whether a change ~~of~~ in the existing database is allowed, and the ~~change of the existing database is made~~ changed only when the ~~a~~ change of the existing database is allowed.

23. (currently amended) The database creation apparatus according to claim 22, further comprising:

a change confirming section which, when the existing database is changed, makes a judgment about the presence/absence of setting of whether a change confirmation+ has been set, and which, when the setting of the change confirmation has been made set, generates a predetermined confirmation message.

24-29. (canceled)

30. (currently amended) ~~The A~~ computer-readable recording medium ~~according to claim 25~~ recorded with a database creation program to be executed by a computer, wherein the database creation ~~processing~~ program further ~~comprises~~ comprising:

extracting character information from source information;

sequentially and individually setting flags to respective pieces of the character information ~~pieces~~ extracted from the source information;

extracting word information from the character information; and

creating a database from the word information.

31. (currently amended) The computer-readable recording medium according to claim 30, wherein the database creation ~~processing~~ program further comprises:

judging whether the extraction of the character information has been extracted from the source information has been performed according to the a previously set flag which already has been set.

32. (currently amended) ~~The A~~ computer-readable recording medium ~~according to claim 25~~ recorded with a database creation program to be executed by a computer, wherein the database creation program the step of creating the database further ~~comprises~~ comprising:

extracting character information from source information;

extracting word information from the character information;

creating a database from the word information;

collating the extracted word information with word information in an existing database; and

adding and registering the extracted word information to the existing database when the extracted word information does not exist in the existing database.

33. (currently amended) The computer-readable recording medium according to claim 32, wherein the step of creating the database further comprises:

judging whether the ~~existing~~extracted word information is identical to the word information having an uppermost priority when the extracted word information exists in the existing database; and

updating the existing database according to the extracted word information when the extracted word information is not identical to the word information having the uppermost priority.

34. (currently amended) The computer-readable recording medium according to claim 32, wherein the step of creating the database further comprises:

judging whether a change ~~of~~in the existing database is allowed; and

~~performing the change~~changing ~~of~~ the existing database only when the change ~~of~~in the existing database is allowed.

35. (currently amended) The computer-readable recording medium according to claim 34, wherein the database creation ~~processing program~~ further comprises:

making a judgment about the ~~presence/absence~~ of ~~setting of whether a change confirmation~~ has been set when the existing database is changed; and

generating a predetermined confirmation message when ~~the setting of the change confirmation has been~~ made set.

36. (canceled)

37. (canceled)